SENATE FISH AND GAME
EXHIBIT NO. 5
DATE 3/17/05
BILL NO. HB225

House Bill 225
March 17, 2005
Presented by Jeff Hagener
Senate Fish and Game Committee

Mr. Chairman and committee members, for the record I am Jeff Hagener, Director of Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks (FWP).

I am here in support of House Bill 225, as amended in the House, an act clarifying the lawful method of hunting by a landowner and a landowner's guests and lessees on the landowner's private property.

FWP main concern with the original bill was to not reduce the FWP Commission's current authority in 87-1-304 (1) (b) MCA to restrict hunting to the use of only specified hunting arms, such as bow and arrow, for the reasons of safety or of providing diverse hunting opportunities and experiences. We understand this was not the sponsor's intent and the amendments placed on the bill in the House have adequately addressed that concern.

HB 225, as amended, now states a landowner and a landowner's guests and lessees may hunt on the landowners private property as long as the hunting is conducted in a manner provided by law and is consistent with regulations. FWP urges your support of this legislation.